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High volume maintained in Tasmanian woodchip production

Tasmanian woodchips maintained a high volume of production in the December quarter 1999, according to a report released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today. Although down marginally from September quarter 1999, chipped and ground wood production totalled 1,207,316 tonnes, up by 35.7% on the same quarter of 1998.

The volume of logs delivered to mills for woodchipping in the December quarter 1999 increased by 34.7% compared to the December quarter 1998, to reach 1,075,435 cubic metres. Log deliveries to sawmills and plywood mills for the December quarter 1999 totalled 225,606 cubic metres, an increase of 3.0% when compared to the same period in 1998.

The overall sawmilling output of timber in the December quarter 1999 was 93,882 cubic metres, 10.9% higher than output for the same quarter in 1998. Hardwood sawn timber production increased by 12.5% to 47,310 cubic metres, and softwood timber production (46,572 cubic metres) also rose 9.2% on the same period in 1998.

The total volume of logs delivered to Tasmanian sawmills and woodchip mills in the December quarter 1999 was 1,301,401 cubic metres, an increase of 27.9% compared to the figure for the December quarter 1998. Of this total 65% were logs from crown land.

Further details can be found in **Tasmanian Statistical Indicators** (cat. no. 1303.6), available from ABS bookshops. This publication also contains information addressing areas such as population and vital statistics, employment and unemployment, wages and prices, production statistics, building, finance, trade, retail sales, tourism and motor vehicle registrations.

To find out how to purchase a copy of this publication, telephone the ABS Bookshop or ABS switchboard in your capital city (listed under Australian Bureau of Statistics in each capital city telephone directory).

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